REMARKS

Claims 1-24 and 27-34 are currently pending. Claims 1-19 and 34 have been allowed. Claims 20-24 and 27-33 have been rejected. Claims 20, 23 and 27-33 have been amended. Claims 25 and 26 have been canceled. Claims 20-24 and 27-33 are hereby submitted for review and reconsideration.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 20-24 and 27-33 stand rejected allegedly for as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter, which the Applicant regards as the invention. Claims 21, 22, and 24 have been rejected as allegedly depending from indefinite claims and therefore being indefinite themselves. It is believed that this rejection is obviated in view of the amendment to claim 20, 23 and 27-33.

In his rejection the Examiner stated that the claims were indefinite because the terms "characterized by" and "is used for" are vague and indefinite.

The Applicants note that claims 20, 23 and 27-33 have been amended to replace the terms "characterized by" and "is used for" with more specific language. Thus, in view of the Amendments to the claims it is believed that the rejection for indefiniteness has been obviated and it is requested that these rejections be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited, after consideration of the present response, to contact the undersigned to discuss any issue in this case that would expedite allowance of the subject application.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date: September 4, 2003

By: John F. G

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